

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 099171

21

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66619

DRAFTED BY S/S-O C REDMAN

S/S-O J HOGANSON

----- 085009

R 290041Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 099171

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HAND AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT ADDIS ABABA ACTION SECSTATE APR 28

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4999

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, ET, US

SUBJECT: RANK OF MAAG MISSION CHIEF

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE MAAG CHIEF POSITION IN MANY COUNTRIES MAY SOON BE REDUCED IN RANK FROM BRIGADIER GENERAL TO FULL COLONEL. ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS NO INTENTION AT THE MOMENT OF REDUCING THE RANK OF THE MAAG CHIEF IN ETHIOPIA WHEN GENERAL YOW IS REPLACED THIS SUMMER, THERE APPEARS SOME POSSIBILITY THAT CONSIDERATION MAY BE GIVEN TO SUCH AN ALTERNATIVE. I THEREFORE WISH TO PUT ON THE RECORD IN VERY STRONG TERMS MY VIEW THAT ANY LOWERING OF THE CHIEF MAAG'S RANK IN THE NEAR FUTURE WOULD HAVE SERIOUS POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS ADVERSE TO OUR INTERESTS HERE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 099171

2. STATE AND DEFENSE ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE ENORMOUS IMPORTANCE WHICH THE EPMG ATTACHES TO THE US MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND OF ITS DEEP SUSPICION THAT THE USG NEITHER FULLY APPRECIATES THE SOMALI THREAT NOR WHOLEHEARTEDLY DESIRES TO PROVIDE THE EPMG WITH ALL POSSIBLE MILITARY ASSISTANCE. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE REPLACEMENT OF GENERAL YOW BY A FULL COLONEL WOULD BE READ BY MANY INFLUENTIAL PMAC MEMBERS AS UNMISTAKABLE AND IRREFUTABLE PROOF OF THE VALIDITY OF THEIR SUSPICIONS. THE DISADVANTAGES WHICH WOULD RESULT ARE CLEARLY OUT OF PROPORTION TO ANY ADVANTAGES WHICH MIGHT ACCRUE TO THE USG.

3. THERE ARE OTHER VALID ARGUMENTS FOR NOT LOWERING THE RANK OF THIS POSITION: (1) THE SIZE AND COMPLEXITY OF THE TOTAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REQUIRES THE MANAGEMENT SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE OF A GENERAL OFFICER; (2) A GENERAL OFFICER CAN GAIN ENTRIES AND EXERT PRESSURES, PARTICULARLY IN HIS FREQUENT DEALINGS WITH THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, WHICH WOULD BE BEYOND THE REACH OF A FULL COLONEL BECAUSE OF THE RESPECT THE GENERAL RANK STILL COMMANDS IN ETHIOPIA; (3) THE RANK OF BRIGADIER GENERAL IS APPROPRIATE IN VIEW OF THE CURRENT AUTHORIZATION OF SERVICE SECTION CHIEFS IN THE MAAG AS FULL COLONELS; AND (4) THE RANK OF BRIGADIER GENERAL IS SENSIBLE IN RELATION TO THE RANKS OF OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY TEAM. WHILE ALL OF THESE ARGUMENTS ARE OF SOME IMPORTANCE, THE ADVERSE POLITICAL IMPACT ON USG-EPMG RELATIONS OF THE CHANGE WOULD BE FAR MORE SIGNIFICANT.

4. FOR THE REASONS SET FORTH ABOVE I URGE IN THE STRONGEST TERMS THAT GENERAL YOW'S SUCCESSOR HERE BE A BRIGADIER GENERAL HUMM. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ADVISERS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE099171
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O C REDMAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750149-0656
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975047/aaaaagbb.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RANK OF MAAG MISSION CHIEF
TAGS: MASS, ET, US
To: USCINCEUR
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006